

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----100041Z 010075 /72-62
R 092313Z JUN 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3960
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 1839

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN
SUBJECT: YOUNG/HERZOG CONVERSATION, JUNE 9

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ISRAELI PERM REP HERZOG CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG JUNE 9. HERZOG ASKED THAT US CONTINUE TO IGNORE THE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE: YOUNG SUGGESTED ISRAEL MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER MAKING A SYMBOLIC GESTURE IN ITS ARMS RELATIONSHIP WITH SOUTH AFRICA. END SUMMARY:

2. AMBASSADOR HERZOG OPENED CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADORS YOUNG AND LEONARD BY REITERATING ISRAELI POSITION ON THE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT US WOULD CONTINUE TO IGNORE THE COMMITTEE. AMBASSADOR YOUNG REPLIED THAT AS HERZOG KNEW COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN, AMBASSADOR FALL, IS SENEGALESE AND US HAS BEEN TRYING TO MOVE SENEGAL TOWARD PLAYING A MODERATING ROLE IN AFRICA; THIS COULD BE IMPORTANT ALSO IN TERMS OF FUTURE EFFORTS ON THE ZIONISM-RACISM QUESTION IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. YOUNG ADDED THAT A GENERAL STRATEGY OF WORKING EVEN IN A LIMITED WAY IN SOME INSTANCES WITH ALL POLITICAL FORCES CAN PAY DIVIDENDS. WHILE NOT NECESSARILY A VINDICATION OF THIS STRATEGY, THE
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FACT THAT THERE WILL NOT BE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS IN THE COMING WEEKS ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA IS NOTWORTHY.

3. AT THIS POINT, HERZOG RESTATED THE HOPE THAT WE NOT ANSWER THE CHAIRMAN'S LETTER TO YOUNG. YOUNG COMMENTED THAT HE HAD SUGGESTED TO DEPARTMENT THAT HE

ANSWER THE LETTER IN GENERAL TERMS. IT WAS NOTED THAT DEPARTMENT ANSWERED WITH THE ALTERNATIVE OF AN ORAL REPLY.

4. HERZOG THEN ASKED WHAT IMPRESSION YOUNG RECEIVED DURING HIS AFRICAN TRIP OF ISRAEL'S POSITION THERE. YOUNG RESPONDED THAT HIS ITINERARY WAS CONFINED TO MODERATE STATES WHERE THERE IS NO PROBLEM. YOUNG CONTINUED BY POINTING OUT THAT NIGERIA IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE APARTHEID CONFERENCE AND MAY BE TAKING A PAGE OUT OF MOZAMBIQUE'S BOOK BY FOLLOWING PRESIDENT MACHEL'S EXAMPLE OF LEADING AT MAPUTO WITH FIRM HAND IN THE DIRECTION OF MODERATION. AT SAME TIME IT WAS CLEAR AT MAPUTO THAT THE PATH TOWARD A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE POINTS TOWARD COOPERATION WITH THE US AND OTHER WESTERN NATIONS.

5. AMBASSADOR HERZOG COMMENTED THAT HE HAD CONVEYED THE SYG'S NOTE ON THE LAGOS CONFERENCE TO JERUSALEM WITH THE RECOMMENDATION THAT ISRAEL PARTICIPATE. YOUNG REMARKED THAT US RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA WERE INDEED IMPORTANT AND US WOULD LIKE TO DO SOMETHING SPECIAL WITH REGARD TO THIS CONFERENCE, BUT FIRST THE US NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND CLEARLY THE DIRECTION IN WHICH THE CONFERENCE MAY BE GOING -- TO ASCERTAIN THAT IT'S NOT GOING TO BE AN ANTI-ISRAELI RALLY; OR THAT IT WON'T BE MERELY ANOTHER ATTACK ON SOUTH AFRICA. YOUNG ADDED THAT IN THIS CONNECTION HE HAD DISCUSSED WITH NIGERIAN PERM REP HARRIMAN THE POSSIBILITY OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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SECURITY COUNCIL DECLARATION BECOMING THE DOCUMENT OF LAGOS; THIS WOULD BE A SENSATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. HARRIMAN WAS CONCERNED OVER ELEMENTS AT THE CONFERENCE THAT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CONTROL; HE HAS PLANS TO KEEP LABOR AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS SEPARATE FROM THE MAIN BODY OF THE CONFERENCE; THEIR RESOLUTIONS WOULD NOT BECOME CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS.

6. YOUNG SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO RAISE A QUESTION ON LIBYA WITH HERZOG IN A PRIVATE CAPACITY AND HOPED HERZOG WOULD NOT REPORT ON THIS. YOUNG COMMENTED THAT LIBYA'S DISRUPTION POTENTIAL IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST HAS BEEN A MAJOR CONCERN TO HIM. LIBYA CAN DO DAMAGE TO MODERATE ARABS AND AFRICAN POSITIONS. WITH THIS IN MIND, IT WOULD SEEM WORTH CONSIDERING WAYS NOT TO ALLOW QADHAFI TO BECOME TOTALLY ISOLATED. YOUNG ADDED THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING MAKING A VISIT TO TRIPOLI AT SOME POINT. HE NOTED HE HAS DISCUSSED THIS WITH EGYPTIAN PERM REP

MEGUID AND OF COURSE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
A POSSIBLE TIMING FOR A TRIP TO LIBYA COULD BE DURING
JULY WHEN HE WILL BE IN GENEVA FOR THE ECOSOC MEETING
BUT WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE SHORT TRIPS, INCLUDING
TO ISRAEL, SWEDEN AND PROBABLY EGYPT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 1839

EXDIS

7. HERZOG REMARKED ON PAST BITTER CLASHES WITH
LIBYAN PERM REP KIKHIA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. BUT
HE ADDED, PERHAPS AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S PROPOSAL IS
SENSIBLE.

8. TURNING TO ISRAELI INTERNAL SITUATION, HERZOG SAID
HE HOPES TO SEE MENAHEM BEGIN THIS WEEKEND IN GENEVA;
HOWEVER, HE NOTES LIKUD'S GENERAL LINE HAS TONED
DOWN. LIKUD IS NO LONGER IN THE OPPOSITION. AT
LEAST ONE ARAB REACTION OF INTEREST IS THAT THE
ALIGNMENT ALWAYS HAD AN OPPOSITION LOOKING OVER ITS
SHOULDER; THE OPPOSITION IS OUT OF THE WAY, BY ASSUMING
POWER. ISRAEL CAN BE MORE DIRECT NOW IN DEALING WITH
ARAB-ISRAELI QUESTIONS. HERZOG COMMENTED THAT BEGIN
IS A PRINCIPLED, RELIGIOUS MAN, CONCERNED WITH JEWS
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

9. AT THIS POINT, AMBASSADOR YOUNG WONDERED IF THE
NEW GOVERNMENT IN ISRAEL COULD MAKE SOME STATEMENT ON
ITS ARMS SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP TO SOUTH AFRICA. THIS

COULD BE HELPFUL WHILE ESSENTIALLY REPRESENTING
NOTHING MORE THAN A SYMBOLIC MOVE. HERZOG NOTED THAT
ONLY TWO ITEMS, SHIPS AND MISSILES WERE INVOLVED.

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LEONARD POINTED OUT THAT POSSIBILITY CANNOT BE DIS-
MISSED OF THINGS NOT PROCEEDING WELL ON NAMIBIA OR
RHODESIA; OUTCOME COULD BE A MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO
AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WHICH COULD EVOLVE INTO AN
ATTACK ON ISRAEL. HERZOG SAID ISRAEL SCRUPULOUSLY
KEEPS THE LINE ON THE RHODESIAN ARMS EMBARGO. NONE-
THELESS, HE WOULD BRING UP THIS MATTER WITH BEGIN.

10. YOUNG CONTINUED BY NOTING THAT DURING SECRETARY
VANCE'S LAST MEETING WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN, THE
SECRETARY OPPOSED A PROPOSAL OF AN ARMS EMBARGO ON
SUPPLIERS TO SOUTH AFRICA SINCE IT COULD BE SEEN AS
DIRECTED AGAINST ISRAEL.
YOUNG

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